

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CARACA 03835 031227Z

44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 FEA-01 OES-06 IGA-02 JUSE-00

AID-05 /089 W

----- 047597

R 022218Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2671

UNCLAS CARACAS 3835

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, VE

SUBJECT: OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM BRIBERY CASE

1. MEP DEPUTY SIUBERTO MARTINEZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE VENEZUELAN BICAMERAL CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING CHARGES THAT THE OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM COMPANY BRIBED GOV OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN VENEZUELAN SERVICE CONTRACTS, DELIVERED TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS HIS COMMITTEE'S "PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS." THESE CONCLUSIONS ARE THAT OCCIDENTAL DID ACT ILLEGALLY, BUT THAT THE PERSONS WHO RECEIVED BRIBES FROM OCCIDENTAL WERE NOT IN A POSITION TO INFLUENCE THE DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE GOV IN RESPECT TO OCCIDENTAL. THE COMMITTEE REPORT ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT THE GOV NOT PAY OCCIDENTAL ANY COMPENSATION FOR NATIONALIZATION OF ITS PROPERTIES IN VENEZUELA. THE REPORT CONCLUDES, HOWEVER, THAT THE COMMITTEE "DOES NOT HAVE UP TO THIS MOMENT ANY INDICATIONS LINKING THE DECLARATION OF THE COMMERCIAL STATUS OF BLOCK "E" (I.E., MAKING OCCIDENTAL ELIGIBLE FOR SUBSTANTIAL REIMBURSEMENT BY THE GOV FOR PART OF ITS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT) WITH THE CRIME OF PRESUMED BRIBERY WHICH IS BEING INVESTIGATED."

2. COMMENT: LITTLE HAS BEEN HEARD IN RECENT WEEKS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, WHICH HAS BEEN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CARACA 03835 031227Z

INTERVIEWING WITNESSES BUT GENERATING LITTLE PUBLICITY.

HOWEVER, ON MARCH 22 AND AGAIN ON MARCH 31 DEPUTY MARTINEZ'S HOME IN MARACAIBO WAS FIRED ON BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS, AND MARTINEZ HAS PUBLICLY LINKED THESE INCIDENTS, WHICH INJURED NO ONE, TO HIS INVESTIGATION OF OCCIDENTAL.

SHLAUDEMAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BRIBERY, NATIONALIZATION, COMPENSATION, POLICIES, INVESTIGATIONS, GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976CARACA03835  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760126-0491  
**From:** CARACAS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t197604105/aaaadmbr.tel  
**Line Count:** 67  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** oatisao  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by oatisao>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM BRIBERY CASE  
**TAGS:** ENRG, PFOR, VE, OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM CO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006